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2025

WE ARE PRIDE

BOOKLIST FOR ADULTS, TEENS, & CHILDREN

BPL.ORG

WE ARE PRIDE is a booklist of recent titles about the diverse experience of the LGBTQ+ community. Observed annually in June, LGBTQ+ Pride Month honors and explores the influence and legacy of members of the LGBTQ+ community.

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Cover Photograph by Spencer Grant

CHILDREN

Circle of Love

By Monique Gray Smith & Illustrated by Nicole Neidhardt

Join Molly as she introduces us to the people of her intertribal community center! Molly loves playing with her uncles' new baby, learning dances with her friends, and curling up with her grandmother's wife when it's time for stories.

J PICTURE GRAYSMIT M

Cool Cat

By Jazz Taylor

Nova doesn't lie; she tells hopes for the future. When a video of her cat goes viral and lands her in the popular crowd (and close to her crush), her hopes for the future start getting out of control.

J FICTION TAYLOR J

The Curse of Eelgrass Bog

By Mary Averling

Kess and her brother are in charge of their family's Unnatural History Museum while their parents are away. When a new girl stops in for help breaking a curse, they find themselves entangled in the mysteries of the Eelgrass Bog, whose hold grows tighter.

J SCIFI FANTASY AVERLING M

It's Pride, Baby!

By Allen R. Wells & Illustrated by Dia Valle

A queer Black family celebrates Pride through art, parades, fireworks, and showing love for each other.

J PICTURE WELLS A

Jamie

By L.D. Lapinski

Jamie, a nonbinary tween, has to choose between two local middle schools — one for boys and one for girls. Jamie and their friends know it's wrong, but can three kids really change the minds of an entire town?

J FICTION LAPINSKI L

Just Shy of Ordinary

By A.J. Sass

Shai, a thirteen-year-old genderfluid homeschooler, attempts to find a "new normal" post-pandemic as they start public school, meet new friends, and learn about their Jewish identity.

J FICTION SASS A

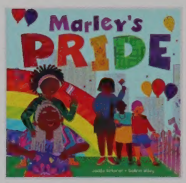
available as an audiobook
available as an eBook
graphic novel

Lunar Boy

By Jes and Cin Wibowo

In this coming-of-age graphic novel, a young trans boy from the moon discovers a home in the most unlikely of places.

J GRAPHIC LUNAR BOY

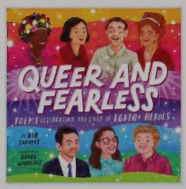


Marley's Pride

By Joëlle Retener & Illustrated by DeAnn Wiley

A nonbinary child with anxiety wants to watch their grandparent win an award at a Pride festival, but can they overcome their fears?

J PICTURE RETENER J



Queer and Fearless: Poems Celebrating the Lives of LGBTQ+ Heroes

By Rob Sanders & Illustrated by Harry Woodgate

Learn about LGBTQ+ heroes in this brightly-colored picture book of poems!

J PS3619.A5275 Q44 2024

The School for Invisible Boys

By Shaun David Hutchinson

When the normally-unseen sixth grader Hector discovers that he can turn invisible, he learns that he isn't the only invisible boy at his school — and things worse than bullies lurk the halls.

J SCIFI FANTASY HUTCHINS S

TEEN

Another First Chance

By Robbie Couch

When River is blackmailed into joining a study on struggling teens, he finds himself thrown together with his ex-best friend and a cute jock. But his new relationships may be at stake when he discovers what is really being studied.

TEEN FICTION COUCH R

A Bánh Mì for Two

By Trinity Nguyen

When Vivi runs away to a study abroad program in Sài Gòn, she ends up meeting her favorite food blogger, Lan. Lan is struggling with writer's block, so she agrees to show Vivi around in hopes that it will reignite her passion for food and blogging.

TEEN FICTION NGUYEN T

The Blonde Dies First

By Joelle Wellington

When Devon and her friends find themselves being stalked by a demon who is following slasher movie tropes, they'll have to use their horror knowledge to flip the script and defeat the evil.

TEEN FICTION WELLINGT J

Don't Let It Break Your Heart

By Maggie Horne

Alana and Gray have broken up and struggle to redefine their relationship after Alana comes out as a lesbian. Their bond is further complicated when Alana agrees to help Gray pursue the new girl at school, only to develop feelings for her herself.

TEEN FICTION HORNE M

Flamboyants: The Queer Harlem Renaissance I Wish I'd Known

By George M. Johnson

This collection of short biographies about queer figures from the Harlem Renaissance will teach you new things about your favorite cultural legends and help you discover new favorites.

TEEN NX512.3.A35 J644 2024

Don't Let the Forest In

By CG Drews

Andrew's relationship with his best friend Thomas has always been intense, but Andrew may have to choose between his confusing feelings for Thomas and his own safety when Thomas' terrifying drawings begin coming to life.

TEEN SCIFI FANTASY DREWS C

Have You Seen This Girl

By Nita Tyndall

Sid's father is in jail for a string of murders he committed when Sid was a child. So when copycat murders begin taking place in town, Sid rushes to unmask the killer before they end up blamed for the crimes.

TEEN FICTION TYNDALL N

Everything Glittered

By Robin Talley

When Gertrude's beloved but controversial headmistress is killed, she and her friends are determined to solve the crime and restore her reputation. But can they do so without risking their own reputations?

TEEN MYSTERY TALLEY R

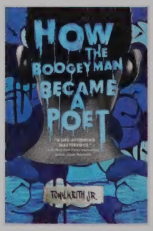
Homebody

By Theo Parish

With a mix of evocative illustrations and prose, Parish shares their journey with gender and sexuality, giving the reader a look at what it is like to grow up as a nonbinary young adult.

TEEN GRAPHIC PN6737.P37 Z46 2024

available as an audiobook
available as an eBook
graphic novel



How the Boogeyman Became a Poet

By Tony Keith Jr.

This memoir-in-verse follows Keith's journey from a closeted teen to an out college student finding community through poetry.

TEEN BIOG PS3611.E3678 Z46 2024

Queerceañera

By Alex Crespo

Joaquin is nervous about being the center of attention at his queerceañera and the pressure only gets worse when he finds himself in a fake dating scheme with his first crush/estranged BFF, who happens to be living with Joaquin's unsupportive mother.

TEEN FICTION CRESPO A

Spells to Forget Us

By Aislinn Brophy

A memory spell causes Aoife and Luna to forget each other whenever they break up, but non-magical Aoife and witch Luna continue to run into each other across Cambridge and Boston, despite travelling in completely different circles.

TEEN SCIFI FANTASY BROPHY A

Thirsty

By Jas Hammonds

As she and her girlfriend begin their bids to join the exclusive Serena Society, Blake is forced to confront the fact that her drinking has gotten out of control.

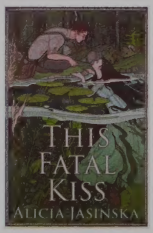
TEEN FICTION HAMMONDS J

This Day Changes Everything

By Edward Underhill

When Abby and Leo find themselves separated from their marching bands in NYC, they end up lost in the city together. As they attempt to reunite with their schools, they experience a day that will change their lives and bond them forever.

TEEN FICTION UNDERHIL E



This Fatal Kiss

By Alicia Jasinska

A rusalka who dreams of being human again and an exorcist who is losing his powers team up to help each other, but their alliance is complicated by a crush on the same guy.

TEEN SCIFI FANTASY JASINSKA A

available as an audiobook
available as an eBook
graphic novel

EXPRESSIONS

Country Queers: A Love Letter

By Rae Garringer

Part photo book, part memoir, part oral history project, this volume paints a vivid portrait of queer and trans experiences in rural areas and small towns across the US.

HQ73.3.U6 G37 2024

Decompose

By S. Fey

Transmasculine poet S. Fey uses garden imagery to explore growth, family, names, and heartbreak in this debut.

Jewcy: Jewish Queer Lesbian Feminisms for the Twenty-First Century

Edited by Marla Brettschneider

Through essays, poems, and memoirs, a variety of Jewish lesbians discuss the ways feminism, queerness, gender, and ethnic background impact how they practice Judaism.

BM729.H65 J49 2024

The Sacred Heart Motel

By Grace Kwan

Wander through a fictional motel as poems describe the lives and loves of those living there.

PS8621.W34 S23 2024

Thunder Song: Essays

By Sasha taqʷšəblu LaPointe

Essays inspired by punk music, as well as the author's great-grandmother, tackle what it means to be a queer Indigenous woman.

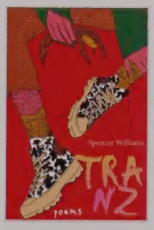
PS3612.A64394 T49 2024

Trans Hirstory in 99 Objects

Edited by David Evans Frantz, Christina Linden, and Chris E. Vargas

The Museum of Trans Hirstory & Art highlights four centuries' worth of art by trans and gender-nonconforming communities.

HQ77.9 .T71415 2024



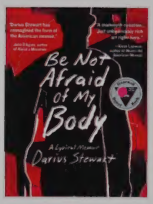
Tranz: Poems

By Spencer Williams

In her debut poetry collection, Williams celebrates the resiliency of the trans community and growing into her own womanhood.

PS3623.I56357 T73 2024

MEMOIR

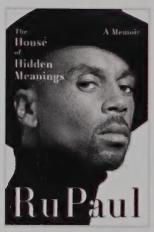


Be Not Afraid of My Body: A Lyrical Memoir

By Darius Stewart

With raw emotion and lyrical beauty, this collection dives into the complexities of Black queer identity and love. Powerful and poetic, it's a celebration of resilience, desire, and the strength to heal through art.

BIOG E185.97.S8393 A3 2024

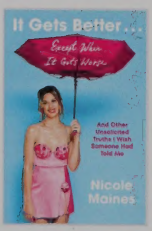


The House of Hidden Meanings: A Memoir

By RuPaul

A fabulous blend of humor, wisdom, and heart, this memoir takes you on a journey of self-love and authenticity. Get ready for a wild ride through the highs and lows of fame, all while learning to embrace your true self!

BIOG PN1992.4.R86 A3 2024



It Gets Better . . . Except When It Gets Worse

By Nicole Maines

Filled with courage and humor, this memoir charts one woman's bold journey to live her truth. From challenges to victories, it's a beacon of hope for anyone fighting for authenticity in a world that's often slow to understand.

BIOG PN2287.M2467 A3 2024

Make It Count: My Fight to Become the First Transgender Olympic Runner

By Cecé Telfer

A track athlete's inspiring story of breaking barriers, this memoir reveals the triumphs and setbacks of becoming an Olympic contender as a transgender woman, while pushing past prejudice to create her own legacy.

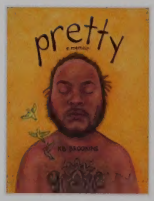
BIOG GV1061.15.T45 A3 2024

One of Them

By Shaneel Lal

A powerful and fearless exploration of what it means to be nonbinary, this memoir blends self-discovery with fierce activism. Get inspired by a tale of cultural identity, LGBTQ+ rights, and the power of visibility.

BIOG HQ73.73.N45 L35 2023



Pretty: A Memoir

By KB Brookins

With reflections on beauty, gender, and self-acceptance, this memoir is as bold and beautiful as the author. It's a story of learning to love yourself and to redefine what it means to feel truly seen in a world that often marginalizes difference.

BIOG HQ76.27.A37 K35 2024

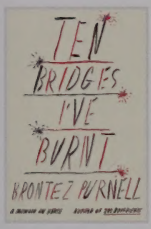
available as an audiobook
available as an eBook
graphic novel

Splice of Life: A Memoir in 13 Film Genres

By Charles Jensen

These poignant essays capture the messiness of life, love, and identity with a tender, honest voice. This collection explores LGBTQ+ experiences, diving into the beauty of relationships and the bittersweetness of growth.

BIOG PS3610.E56256 Z46 2024



Ten Bridges I've Burnt: A Memoir in Verse

By Brontez Purnell

Unapologetically real and wildly entertaining, this raw collection of essays and stories reflecting on growing up queer and Black brings you on a journey through love, heartbreak, and the joy of being yourself.

BIOG PS3616.U785 Z46 2024

NONFICTION

Closures: Heterosexuality and the American Sitcom

By Grace Lavery

With detailed readings of shows like *Friends*, *BoJack Horseman*, *The Office*, and more, Lavery uses trans theory to highlight how shows structure the family narrative as incomplete, as well as the transition from family to friends to workplace setting.

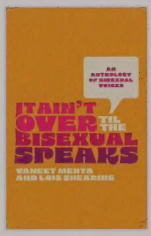
PN1992.8.C66 L384 2024

Dear Bi Men: A Black Man's Perspective on Power, Consent, Breaking Down Binaries, and Combating Erasure

By J.R. Yussuf

Rich with personal narratives, analysis, and advice, this is a powerful resource for Black bi+ men to reclaim their identity, counter biphobia, and get empowered — while fighting back against the erasure and dehumanization wrought by patriarchy.

HQ74.8 Y87 2024



It Ain't Over Til the Bisexual Speaks: An Anthology of Bisexual Voices

Edited by Vaneet Mehta and Lois Shearing

With essays that unpack the intersectionality of bisexuality with history, language, sexual violence, class, religion, polyamory, gender critical ideology, fatness, trans activism, and asylum, this collection of bi voices demands to be heard.

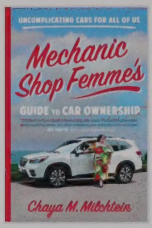
HQ74 .M44 2024

Math in Drag

By Kyne Santos

Santos educates us about both mathematical mysteries and the world of drag. With elegant irreverence, Santos explores the artistry of ballroom culture and the nature of infinity as well as the illegal joys of Pride and dividing by zero.

QA93 .S26 2024



Mechanic Shop Femme's Guide to Car Ownership: Uncomplicating Cars for All of Us

By Chaya M. Milchtein

From buying a car to insuring it, finding the perfect mechanic, and dealing with car emergencies, Milchtein — an automotive educator, journalist, and social media influencer — encourages everyone to make educated decisions regarding their vehicles.

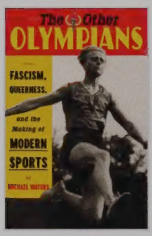
TL151 .M55 2024

A Place of Our Own: Six Spaces That Shaped Queer Women's Culture

By June Thomas

Queer women have always created gathering grounds where they can be themselves. From the intimacy of the lesbian bar to the camaraderie of the softball field, these spaces are a necessity for queer women defining their identities.

HQ75.6.U5 T46 2024

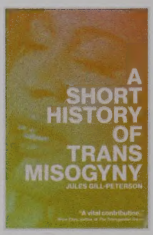


The Other Olympians: Fascism, Queerness, and the Making of Modern Sports

By Michael Waters

Waters uncovers the stories of pioneering trans and intersex athletes from their eras, as well as how International Olympic Committee members ignored Nazi Germany's atrocities and obsessions with surveilling and cataloging gender.

BIOG GV721.53 .W38 2024

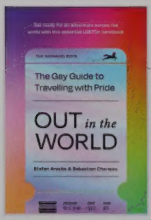


A Short History of Trans Misogyny

By Jules Gill-Peterson

Weaving together the stories of historical figures, Gill-Peterson looks at how colonial governments, the sex work industry, the policing of urban public spaces, and the area between the formal and informal economies have affected transfeminine people.

HQ77.96 .G55 2024

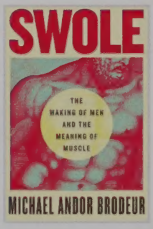


Out in the World: The Gay Guide to Travelling with Pride

By Stefan Arestis and Sebastien Chaneac

From iconic landmarks to hidden gems — whether you dream of snorkeling in the Philippines, stargazing in New Zealand, or partying in the streets of Mexico — this is your ticket to travel with pride and explore the world's most dazzling Pride celebrations!

HQ75.25 .A74 2024



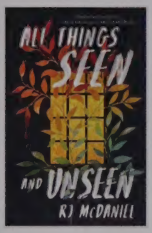
Swole: The Making of Men and the Meaning of Muscle

By Michael Andor Brodeur

Brodeur takes us into the culture centered around men's bodies, probing its limitations and promises: how men can love themselves while rejecting the aggression, objectification, and misogyny that have for so long accompanied the quest to be swole.

HQ1090.3 .B77 2024

FICTION

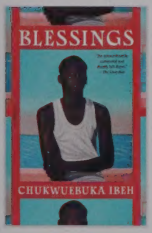


All Things Seen and Unseen

By RJ McDaniel

Alex Nguyen is feeling hopeless after losing her job, housing, and money. She takes an opportunity to house-sit for her rich friend's summer mansion, where she navigates an unfamiliar and not-always-welcoming community, processing both trauma and a new romance.

FICTION MCDANIEL R



Blessings

By Chukwuebuka Ibeh

Obiefuna, a young dancer in post-military Nigeria, is sent to a strict boarding school when his father catches him with another boy.

FICTION IBEH C

Broughtupsy

By Christina Cooke

Akúa returns to Jamaica to be with her sister as they bury their brother. Carrying his remains, the two revisit places from their childhood, and Akúa realizes what it means to be a lesbian in Jamaica.

FICTION COOKE C

Bury Your Gays

By Chuck Tingle

After finally scoring an Oscar nomination, Misha thinks he's made it in Hollywood until studio executives for his streaming show demand that he kill off all the gay characters.

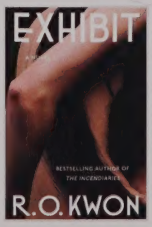
FICTION TINGLE C

City of Laughter

By Temim Fruchter

Grieving her father, Shiva Margolin yearns to discover her family's guarded history by studying Jewish folklore. She travels to Poland to experience Ropshitz, Poland, the "city of laughter," where she unearths a hundred years of confounding ancestry.

FICTION FRUCHTER T



Exhibit

By R.O. Kwon

At a party with her husband, Jin Han meets and is instantly drawn to Lidija, an enigmatic dancer. Jin tells Lidija about the family curse, which could bring disaster.

FICTION KWON R

available as an audiobook
available as an eBook
graphic novel

Evocation

By S.T. Gibson

David is an attorney who moonlights as a secret society's medium. When the Devil comes to ask about an ancestor's unfulfilled deal, David reluctantly turns to his ex-boyfriend, developing feelings for both Rhys and his wife.

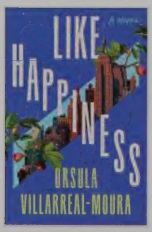
FICTION GIBSON S

Hombrecito

By Santiago Jose Sanchez

Following a young immigrant's transition from Colombia to Miami, *Hombrecito* explores one boy's relationship with his mother as he embraces his queer identity for the first time.

FICTION SANCHEZ S



Like Happiness

By Ursula Villarreal-Moura

Tatum is living a peaceful life with her partner in Chile when she gets a call to comment on her former employer's assault claims. The questions bring back experiences she wishes she left behind, along with a newfound sense of identity.

FICTION VILLARRE U

Rainbow Black

By Maggie Thrash

Lacey's idyllic rural life is changed forever when, caught in the midst of the Satanic Panic, her parents are accused of preying on children. As an adult, Lacey reflects on her choices and hides from her past in Montreal.

FICTION THRASH M

A Season in Chezgh'un

By Darrel J. McLeod

James, a gay Cree man, is living comfortably in Vancouver when his mother's death draws him closer to his roots in northern British Columbia. Taking a job as a principal in a school, James reconnects with the Dakelh community and confronts his own roots.

FICTION MCLEOD D

Sister Snake

By Amanda Lee Koe

Two sisters, one in New York and one in Singapore, share a secret thousand-year history as snakes. It comes to a head when Emerald survives a violent incident in Central Park and Su rushes to be with her sister.

FICTION LEEKOE A

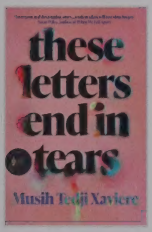
available as an audiobook
available as an eBook
graphic novel

Someone You Can Build a Nest In

By John Wiswell

Shapeshifting monster Shesheshen falls in love with the human who rescued her (and who she planned on having her future children eat), only to learn that her girlfriend's family has been hunting her.

SCIFI FANTASY WISWELL J



These Letters End in Tears

By Musih Tedji Xaviere

As a teenager in Cameroon, Christian Bessem fell for Muslim Fatima, defying their religions' and country's laws against homosexuality. Thirteen years later, Bessem is now a professor and has never forgotten Fatima.

FICTION XAVIERE M

We Came to Welcome You

By Vincent Tirado

After a rough year, Sol's wife suggests they move to a gated community. But in this suburban horror story, the neighbors might be a little too friendly.

FICTION TIRADO V

ROMANCE

I'll Have What He's Having

By Adib Khorram

An unforgettable night begins when David, sommelier at Kansas City's newest wine bar, mistakes lonely Farzan for a well-known food critic. Can a situationship sparked by mistaken identity become something more?

FICTION KHORRAM A

Karaoke Queen

By Dominic Lim

Rex's drag queen alter ego Regina Moon Dee may bring just the *zhuzh* his beloved karaoke bar needs to stay afloat. The only complication: Rex doesn't want the guy he's pursuing to know Regina's true identity.

ROMANCE LIM D

Looking for Love in All the Haunted Places

By Claire Kann

Proud asexual Lucky gets the chance to showcase her psychic abilities on a haunted house reality TV show, where she also finds romance with fellow paranormal investigator and show producer Maverick.

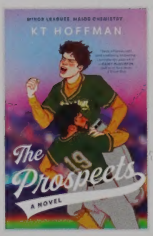
ROMANCE KANN C

Make Room for Love

By Darcy Liao

An anxious trans grad student and grieving butch electrician become roommates and bond over union organizing in this story of heady attraction and healing intimacy.

ROMANCE LIAO D



The Prospects

By KT Hoffman

Gene, the first openly trans professional baseball player, finds his life turned upside-down when long-time rival Luis is traded to his team.

ROMANCE HOFFMAN K

Really Cute People

By Markus Harwood-Jones

A work trip rental mix-up finds Charlie snowed in with their hosts Hayden and Buffy in this polyamorous, found-family romance.

ROMANCE HARWOODJ M

Second Night Stand

By Karelia and Fay Stetz-Waters

Professional ballerina Lillian and burlesque dancer Izzy don't need distractions while facing off to win a reality TV dance competition. Their big goals don't leave room for falling for a rival, but forgetting their one-night stand isn't so easy.

ROMANCE STETZWAT K

A Shore Thing

By Joanna Lowell

In this Victorian seaside romp, a dashing trans artist sweeps a beleaguered botanist off her feet and into a bicycle race rife with gender politics.

ROMANCE LOWELL J

available as an audiobook
available as an eBook
graphic novel

Wake Up, Nat & Darcy

By Kate Cochrane

Exes and former hockey rivals become sports broadcast co-hosts with obvious chemistry — or so their fans say. As they up their flirtation for the ratings, their true feelings take a hit.

ROMANCE COCHRANE K

Whenever You're Ready

By Rachel Runya Katz

To keep a promise to a friend who died years earlier, Nia and Jade reconnect for a road trip focused on Southern Jewish history. Together, they contend with the past and confront their feelings for each other.

ROMANCE RUNYAKAT R

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